

Russell P. Letterman Wild Area

Area Facts



- Total area is 4,715 acres.
- Found north of Route 144 in western Clinton County.
- Was formerly known as Fish Dam Wild Area.
- Named after former State Representative Letterman (1933-1990), who represented the area as part of the 76th District.
- Area is the watershed of Fish Dam Run, an Exceptional Value Stream.

Sproul State Forest

For more information, please contact Sproul State Forest at:

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Ecosystem/Terrain

- Diverse northern hardwood forest community.
- Area was affected by a tornado and wildfire in the late 1980s, which promoted young forest succession in widespread areas.
- Rugged terrain reaches up to 2200' elevation.



Chestnut-sided warblers can be found in the wild area.

Wildlife

- The wild area is best known for its diverse interior forest bird population and is classified as an Important Bird Area (Audubon Society)
- Examples include many species of warblers and other songbirds.
- Top predators such as coyotes, bobcats, eagles, and hawks are found in the wild area.
- Wild game species include grouse, turkeys, bears, and deer.
- Fish Dam Run contains wild brook trout.



Hikers beware, rattlesnakes are found in the wild area.

Access

- Routes 144 and 120 are major corridors in the area.
- Jews Run and Penrose roads are improved dirt surface roads in the area.
- Interior access is remote and limited to foot travel.
- Features two shared-use trails: Fish Dam and Dennison Fork.
- The 50-mile Chuck Keiper state forest hiking trail accesses the southern portion of the wild area and overlaps with Fish Dam Trail.



Fish Dam Overlook.

